

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-10 OPIC-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:JMDION:CCH

APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM

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R 272047Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, ID

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON PORTUGUESE TIMOR

1. THE FOLLOWING QUESTION AND ANSWER WERE PROVIDED
AS PRESS GUIDANCE FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN FEBRUARY 27:

QUESTION: THERE HAVE BEEN PRESS REPORTS SUGGESTING THAT
THERE IS TROUBLE IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR AND THAT INDONESIA
MAY BE PLANNING TO SEIZE THE TERRITORY BY FORCE RATHER
THAN LETTING IT BECOME INDEPENDENT. DO YOU HAVE ANY
COMMENT?

ANSWER: ANY CHANGE IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR'S STATUS SHOULD
BE CARRIED OUT PEACEFULLY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
WISHES OF THE PEOPLE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT
OF PORTUGAL IS PREPARED TO ABIDE BY THE WISHES OF THE
PEOPLE. IF THEY DECIDE TO JOIN INDONESIA RATHER THAN
REMAIN WITH PORTUGAL OR SEEK A SEPARATE STATUS, THIS
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WOULD BE A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

2. PORTUGUESE TIMOR WAS NOT RAISED DURING FEBRUARY 27
BRIEFING BUT ABOVE CONTINUES TO REPRESENT GENERAL GUIDE-
LINES OF DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON THIS ISSUE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: MartinML
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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